



# St. Joseph Church

10 H. Putnam Ext.  
P.O. Box 338, Charlton City, MA 01508

## Pastor

Father Bob Grattaroti

## Senior Priest

Father Charles Monroe

## Permanent Deacons

Bill Shea  
Steve Miller

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am,  
10:00 am & 5:00 pm

Daily at 8:30 am

## First Saturday Mass & Devotions

8:00 am Mass followed by  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available Saturdays at 3:45 pm.

## Sacrament of Baptism

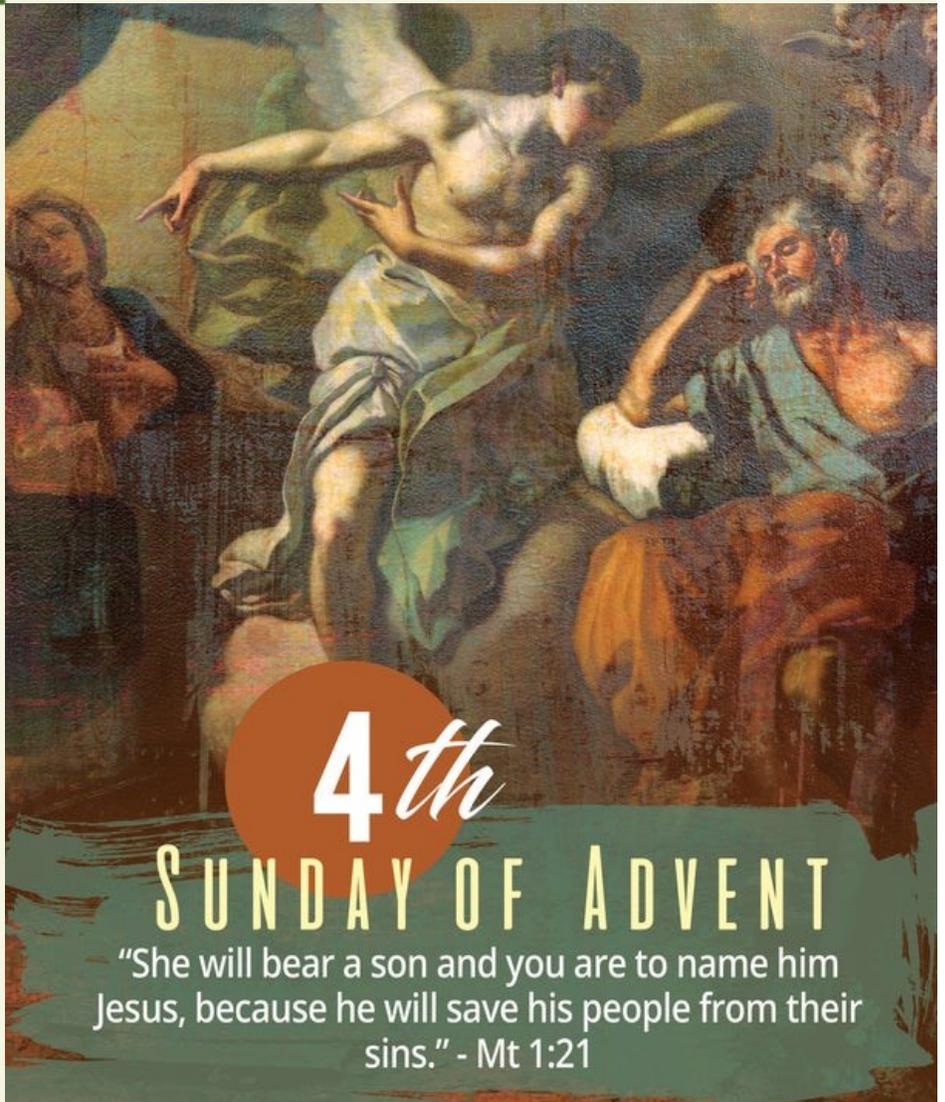
Baptismal preparation is required.  
The next session is January 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Contact the Parish Office to register.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements for a wedding  
begin a year prior to the date.  
Contact the Parish Office.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In the front 2<sup>nd</sup> story window of  
the East wing. Park and pray.



# 4<sup>th</sup>

## SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and you are to name him  
Jesus, because he will save his people from their  
sins." - Mt 1:21

**Parish Office:**

**508-248-7862**

Fax: 508-248-5832

Email: [stjoecharlton@aol.com](mailto:stjoecharlton@aol.com)

Website: [stjosephscharlton.com](http://stjosephscharlton.com)



Please,  
silence your cell  
phone for Mass.

December 18,  
2022

# MASS Intentions

## Saturday, December 17

4:30 pm Francis & Stanley Znamierowski by the Family

## Sunday, December 18

8:00 am Fr. Bafaro & Fr. Piccolomini by Assunta D'Annolfo

10:00 am Steve Ide by the Family

5:00 pm Jessica LaPierre by Lifeteen

## Monday, December 19

8:30 am Lowell Bond by Richard & Sandy McDonald

## Tuesday, December 20

8:30 am Dorothy Nachajko by Chiquitas Prayer Group

## Wednesday, December 21

8:30 am Mass Celebrated

## Thursday, December 22

8:30 am Kevin McDonald by Mom & Dad

## Friday, December 23

8:30 am Russell Siegmund by his Daughter, Jean & Grandchildren

## Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm (U) Dennis & Stuart Tully by the Family

4:00 pm (D) Roger Gelineau by Cheryl & John

## Sunday, December 25

8:00 am Jessica LaPierre by the Parish Family

10:00 am Bill & Rita Reil and Bill & Eileen Beaudry by Cindy Richard

5:00 pm Juliette Lacroix by the Family

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week  
for Allan Turmelle by his Wife



With great joy we welcome **NATHANAEL THOMAS FAVREAU** child of John & Elyse and **MASON MICHAEL BORIA** child of Paul & Robin who will be baptized in water and Spirit this weekend.

**REST IN PEACE** **DEB PICCIRELLO**. May she rest in the arms of the Lord and rejoice in the glory of heaven, and her family find comfort in their faith.

*Traditional Oplatek Christmas Wafers, blessed straw and 2023 Calendars are available in the Narthex while supplies last.*



## Vacation Bible School Christmas Edition

**December 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**  
9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Kids, grade PreK to 6, are welcome to join us for a free winter VBS Program centered on the true gift of Christmas, Jesus!

Registration forms can be found in the Narthex or on our website. Forms can be turned in at the office or sent to Kendall Mullen via email at [mullenk@cua.edu](mailto:mullenk@cua.edu).



Bible Study with Fr. Charlie meets on Mondays from 6:30-7:30 pm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room or Wednesdays from 9:00-10:00 am in the room off the Coffee Room. All are invited to attend.

All are welcome to join us for:  
*Coffee & Discussion with Fr. Bob*

The next topic will be:

*The Eucharist*

January 15<sup>th</sup> after the 10:00 am Mass

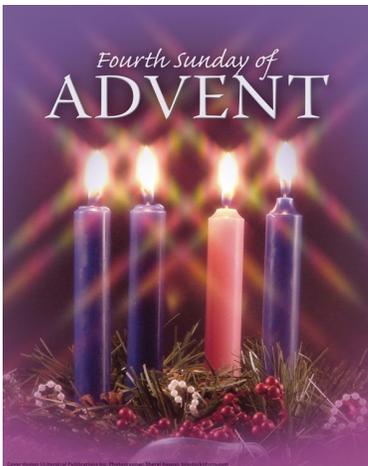


## St. Joseph Church - Charlton Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Vigil 4:00 pm (main church & downstairs), 10:00 pm Christmas Chorale and 10:30 pm the Holy Family Tableau Mass

Christmas Day Masses:  
8:00 am, 10:00 am and 5:00 pm

New Year's Day 8:00 & 10:00 am & 5:00 pm



The Fourth Sunday of Advent we meditate on the peace that Jesus brings our hearts and our world. Let us meditate on the promises of God and allow them to comfort our hearts!

The fourth candle is called the "Angel Candle" and symbolizes peace. The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace (Luke 2:14). We are reminded that Jesus came to bring peace to our hearts and to our world!

*Lord, would you bring your strength and peace to your people! Let your presence be felt by all who seek you in a powerful way this Advent season. Turn the hearts of mankind towards you. We pray that the lost turn to you and find an unshakable peace that nothing else can offer.  
Amen.*

## O' Antiphons

The Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the 8<sup>th</sup> century. They are a theology from the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ. Their use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

### December 17

*O Wisdom of our God Most High*, guiding creation with power and love: come teach us the path of knowledge!

### December 18

*O Leader of the House of Israel*, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

### December 19

*O Root of Jesse's stem*, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

### December 20

*O Key of David*, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

### December 21

*O Radiant Dawn*, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

### December 22

*O King of all nations and keystone of the Church*: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

### December 23

*O Emmanuel*, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!



Please take note of the O' Antiphon banners that hang at the rear of the worship area.

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Family,

The out pouring of love and affection, which I received in observance of the 60<sup>th</sup> year of my ordination to the Priesthood, was most impressive and deeply humbling. I cannot thank you enough for your ongoing goodness and love. I want you to know that I deeply love all of you and think of you often in prayer with deep gratitude.

How well I remember that day, some sixty years ago, as the 68 of us seminarians arrived at the Church of Christ the King on the banks of the Tiber River in Rome for the 7:00 am ordination ceremony that would take almost five hours. It was my first day up after having had my appendix removed the week before. As we seminarians lay flat on the floor, during the singing of the Litany of Saints, I realized that I was not going to be able to get up. The two fellows next to me, Henry Garzilli and Tom Gilmartin kindly lifted me up, and a stool was brought over so that I could sit for the remainder of the ceremony. Now, fast forward 60 years, and by God's Divine Providence, I am here at St. Joseph Church, Charlton, with good and loving people and the flock whom the Lord has entrusted to my spiritual care.

The list of those to thank is very large, but in particular, I thank Deacon Bill and his committee for the time, labor and love which they have shared to make the celebration so wonderful. I thank our good Bishops, Bishop McManus, our Ordinary and Bishop Reilly, Retired, and the priests and deacons who assisted in this great event in my life.

My gratitude goes out to our choir and musicians, lectors, Communion Ministers, decorators and all who were so lovingly present to me in this milestone in my life. Again, thank you all for your kindly, ongoing goodness, with a pledge of constant prayer for you. And so, in the beginning and at the end, I give Glory and thanks to God! The beautiful song "My Tribute" says it all, "How can I give thanks for things You have done for me? Things so undeserved, yet You gave to prove Your love for me. The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude. All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe it all to You.

To God be the glory, Fr. Bob



The *I'm spending Christmas with Jesus this Year* poem is available in the Narthex and at front entry table.

## 12 TREES OF CHRISTMAS

Legend has it, the song, *12 Days of Christmas*, written during a time of persecution in England, was meant to teach the catechism to young Catholics.

We now have a tradition here at St. Joseph Church, whereby 12 trees, in the front of the building, are decorated depicting each of the 12 verses of the song.

The decorated trees are available for viewing by the parish starting this weekend.



The Ecumenical Winter Coat Closet would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the parishioners of St. Joseph's who donated warm coats for those who need them. We had a very busy season, and coats were given out as fast as they came in. The final totals will be reported in January, but please know that your generosity and prayers were gratifying to many.

Merry Christmas & God Bless!

## Stewardship Corner

Parish offerings for the weekend of December 4<sup>th</sup> were \$13,149.00 with \$840.00 for our Building Fund. Thank you for your continued conscientious support of our church.

“For it is  
in  
giving  
that  
we  
receive.”  
- St. Francis of Assisi

The parish offerings for the weekend of December 11<sup>th</sup> will be reported next weekend due to a mandatory early bulletin submission.

You may have seen the large lift on the parish grounds in the past several weeks. We are working on repairing all the eaves of our building, which are showing their age after 21 years.

Many thanks to all who were so lovingly responsible for making Fr. Bob's Diamond Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood such a wonderful celebration. He reminds us, that like all priests and bishops, *"we are ordained for the people that we may bring God to them in His Word and in His Sacrament, especially the Holy Eucharist."*

**OUTSIDE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**-We are most grateful to the Robert Lemansky (Ronnies) family, and Madeleine Proulx for their donations which helped beautify our Parish complex with the outdoor Christmas lights this year.



Gifts for the Refugee Apostolate, local families and seminarians should be returned unwrapped with the tag attached.

Please bring your gifts to the Narthex.

If your gift requires batteries, please insert them into the gift, do not tape them to the gift.

There is still time to support Urban Ministries by going to [urbanmissionaries.com](http://urbanmissionaries.com) then click Christmas Giving 2022 GoFundMe.

## WELCOME

to St. Joseph Parish, we are glad you are here. New parishioners are encouraged to register. Please use the QR code or call the office at 508-248-7862.



Scripture readings for week of December 18<sup>th</sup>

M: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25  
T: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38  
W: Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-21/Lk 1:39-45  
Th: 1 Sm 1:24-28, 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56  
F: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14/Lk 1:57-66  
S: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-16/Ps 89:2-5, 27,29/Lk 1:67-79

PRAYER BEFORE MASS-Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. AMEN

## ELECTRONIC GIVING



If you would like to participate in electronic or online giving, go to [stjosephscharlton.com/electronic-giving](http://stjosephscharlton.com/electronic-giving) and complete the form or contact [Lynn@stjosephscharlton.com](mailto:Lynn@stjosephscharlton.com).

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

takes place January 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10:00 am Mass.  
To register scan the QR code or call 508-248-7862 to register.



Let us stay connected with you through texts or emails. Text the word *CHARLTON* to 84576 or [app.flocknote.com/stjosephscharlton](http://app.flocknote.com/stjosephscharlton)

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Kathy Menard  
kathryn@stjosephscharlton.com

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Susan Montville  
tsmontville@aol.com

### BULLETIN

Cheryl Kingston  
cgkingston@yahoo.com

### FOOD PANTRY

Open Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 am  
and the first Sunday of the  
month 9:00-10:00 am. Food  
donations are gladly accepted.

### 24 HOUR PRAYER LINE

508-434-0106 or  
prayer@missionariesofmercy.net

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### First Lights (gr. k-5)

Sr. Agnes Patricia  
sisteragnespatria@yahoo.com

#### EDGE (gr. 6-8)

Sandra Buron  
mrsbedge2018@gmail.com

#### LIFETEEN (gr. 9-12)

Deacon Bill Shea  
deaconbill@stjosephscharlton.com



O Lord God, we pray for peace and love in all the nations, among all the people, that all wars and hatred will end. We pray for those who suffer from war, injustice, and intolerance, for the children, young people, the poor and neglected ones. We pray for peace in our life, lands, nations, families and in our hearts. Lord give us world peace, we ask for your mercy in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**



Low gluten  
Hosts are  
available.  
Please indicate  
your desire for this form.



*"When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord directed him."*

Are you prayerfully vigilant about discovering your vocation in Christ? Might He be inviting you to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473 or email: [dinfante@saintpaulknights.org](mailto:dinfante@saintpaulknights.org).

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(P) denotes St. Joseph Parishioners

Parish Mission Statement-We are a Community of Faith, called by Jesus Christ to become His hands, His feet, His heart, reaching out in love to each other, our families, our neighbors, our nation and the world.